10-4-47 Churches (W) Catholic

Terre Haute Monastery To Open Saturday

Ind Star 10-4-47

Carmelite Prioress Leaves This Week To Fill Like Post There

Mother Agnes of Jesus, prioress of the Carmelite Monastery here, will leave this week to become prioress of the new Carmelite foundation in Terre Haute.

The Terre Haute Monastery will be opened officially Saturday and will be open to the public Saturday, Sunday and Monday. The Most Reverend Paul C. Schulte, archbishop of Indianapolis, will offer the first mass in the Carmelite Sisters' new chapel Wednesday, Oct. 15, and following this will establish enclosure for the nuns.

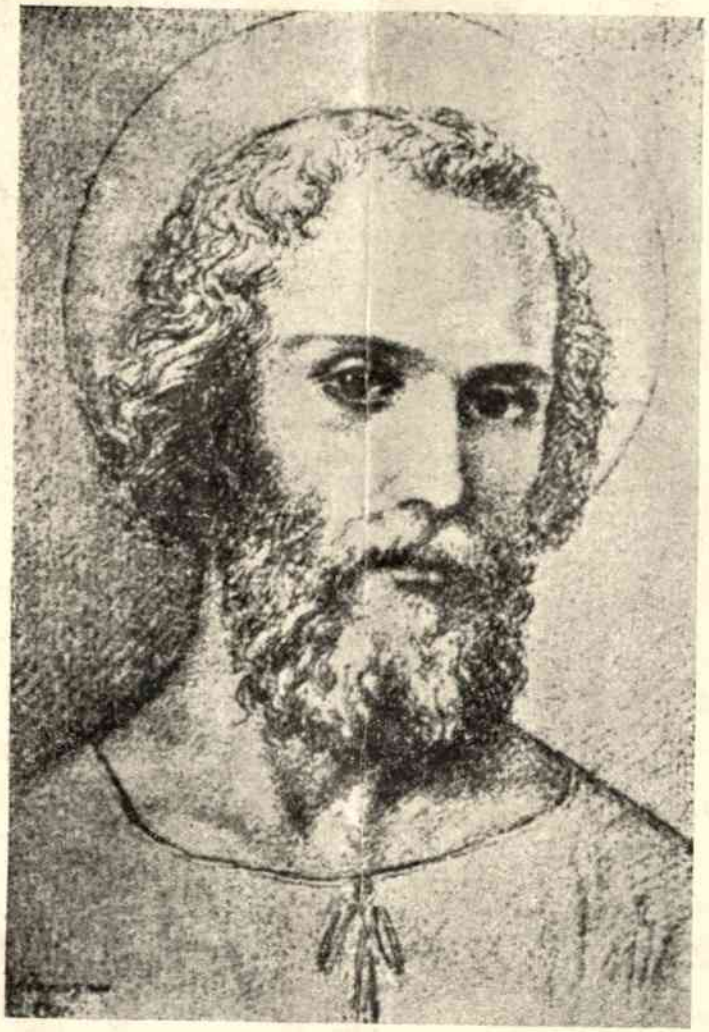
THOUSANDS OF persons are expected to attend the opening. When the Carmelite Monastery was opened here in 1932, about 50,000 inspected the building on the opening days.

In asking the Indianapolis nuns to establish the new house, the Archbishop has set an unusual precedent. The Archdiocese becomes one of the few in the United States with two Carmlite houses and is probably the only with the mother and daughter house in the same diocese.

MOTHER AGNES of Jesus, a native of Scranton, Pa., will be accompanied by seven religious. Three from Indiana are Mother Magdalene of the Sacred Heart, Decatur, sub-prioress of the new group; Sister Joan of the Cross, Terre Haute, and Sister Catherine of the Mother of God, St. Croix. Others are Sister Mary of the Eucharist, St. Paul, Minn.; Sister Elia of the Mother of God, Chicago, and Sister Patricia of the Holy Face, Covington, Ky.

The property in Terre Haute has been altered during the summer to serve as a monastery. The upper floor has been partitioned into small individual cells and on the first floor is the small chapel, decorated in cream, brown and gold, and the choir, refectory and speakroom.

Habit of Order Bestowed On 2 Young



Souvenir of the Carmel of St. Joseph

Terre Haute

Elizabeth Beatty, Washington, D. C., and Miss Angela Craft, New York City, N. Y.

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Community Affairs File

The Carmelite Order

The Carmelite Order originated on Mount Carmel in Palestine and dates back to the time of the Prophet Elias, nine hundred years before Christ,—and the Carmelite today continues the eremitical life of the ancient Prophets in the quiet and seclusion of her solitary cell.

In the early centuries there was a succession of holy Solitaries on Mount Carmel who by their prayers and penances hastened the conversion of the world. The people went to the Holy Mount on feast days to mingle their prayers with those of its inhabitants, (probably the origin of the faithful turning to Carmel even today in a like spirit of praise, thanksgiving and supplication).

Time went on and God made use of the early persecution of the Church to bring the Carmelites to the West and finally they spread into England where our Immaculate Mother appeared to St. Simon Stock and gave him the Holy Scapular as a sign of her protection and love. The Order of Carmel has always been known as the Order of Mary charged with the blessed duty of propagating her devotion in a special manner.

In the 15th Century the Church prudently lightened or mitigated some points of the Rule of Carmel which were thought too severe on account of the ravages of the Black Death which then devastated Europe. God in His secret designs was preparing, however, ways and means whereby the hermit spirit might be retained in its fullness and the restoration of the Primitive Rule of Carmel put upon a permanent basis.

In 1513 the Seraphic St. Teresa of Avila, Spain, was born and it was through this illustrious Saint that the glory of Carmel was again to shine in its early splendor. Inspired by divine grace St. Teresa commenced the reform of Carmel restoring the Primitive Rule in all its rigor. God blessed her labors for the Order of Carmel then spread with a rapidity which may be called miraculous. From this time on those who followed the Primitive Rule of Carmel, or the Reform of St. Teresa, were called Discalced Carmelites (discalced meaning unshod—or wearing sandals as the hermits of old) and those who followed the Mitigated Rule were known as the Calced Carmelites, a distinction which exists to our present day.

The Order of Carmel is above all Contemplative though in the thought and mind of St. Teresa it is none the less Apostolic, for

gold, and the choir, refectory and speakroom.

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Community Affairs File

she wished her spiritual daughters to come to the aid of the Church and in the ardor of their zeal to embrace the entire universe by the apostolate of prayer and sacrifice. A Carmelite is a victim vowed to immolation. Her prayers, her penance and sacrifice are not for her personal benefit alone, but for the benefit and salvation of the world as well.

As early as 1790 the Carmelites reached the American shores where they soon became universally known and loved. Their little chapels were thronged with devout worshipers who soon experienced the power of their intercession before the throne of God. Carmel in Indiana has, as in so many other cases, a prophetic shadow in the love of the first saintly Bishop of Vincennes. In a letter to Carmel Bishop Bruté writes, "May be as the visitation days come this year Indiana may be beautified with some branch of Carmel, the first of all Communities granted by God to our America.—Your prayers have called the others and blessed the whole land." Today the prayer of Bishop Bruté has been doubly realized within the territory which was once his diocese. The second Carmel in Indiana has been established in Terre Haute.

The Carmelite Order is one of the most strictly cloistered Orders of the Church. To guard the spirit of recollection and prayer the Church has instituted the Cloister and has ordained that the chapel and exterior of the Monastery be cared for by Extern Sisters or Seculars. This isolation from the vain distractions of the world established by the grille and cloister walls is for the soul a principle of union with God, from which flows all the blessings and benedictions which the Carmelite unceasingly petitions for the world.

Silence is also one of the fundamental points of the Rule of Carmel. The silence of the tongue, the silence of the mind and the silence of the heart are absolutely necessary for a life of prayer. A profound silence reigns in the Monastery of Carmel broken only by the tinkle of a bell which calls the Religious to the Choir for the recitation of the Divine Office. Here the incense of praise rises to the throne of God and draws down upon mankind an effusion of divine grace and benediction. Here the Religious present with confidence the petitions of all who ask their intercession and their power is unlimited—because they are present before Almighty God not as individuals but as officials appointed by the Church for this exalted duty.

The Carmelite Rule prescribes continual abstinence and fasting during the greater part of the year. During Lent and on special days the fast is even more rigorous—known as the black

Elizabeth Beatty, Washington, D. C., and Miss Angela Craft, New York City, N. Y.

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fast. The Carmelite who by her vocation is a victim for the world must follow Christ to Calvary leading as He did a humble, laborious, penitential life in the rigor of long fasts, watchings and penances of every kind.

Manual labor is strenuously urged in the Rule. The Carmelite is no exception to the law of labor which rests upon the world, the first penance imposed upon mankind by Almighty God. There is this difference, however, in Carmel the hours of labor are longer and, unlike the world, the Carmelite has no diversions.

The Order of Carmel glories in its countless saints and in those who have striven to live up to its ideal, for the life of every Carmelite seeks the goal of that all-embracing charity of a St. Therese of the Child Jesus who would "pass her heaven doing good upon earth." Our Blessed Lord has said, "Greater love than this hath no man than that he give his life for his friend,"—and St. Paul, "Love is the fulfilling of the law."—So too is each day of Carmel given to God and to souls.

The Carmel of Terre Haute is placed under the patronage of the glorious St. Joseph, the spread of whose devotion in the Church is due in large part to the Order of Carmel, and, in later centuries, to Carmel's great reformer, St. Teresa of Spain. St. Teresa dedicated many of her Carmels to St. Joseph and wrote of him, "To some saints one goes in some particular necessity, to St. Joseph in every need. I cannot call to mind that I have ever asked the glorious St. Joseph at any time for anything that he has not granted, and I am filled with amazement when I consider the favors God has given me through this great saint."

A Novena to St. Joseph is made at Carmel each month from the 11th to the 19th. The following monthly novenas are also made:

1-9	Novena to the Holy Face
8-16	Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel
16-25	Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague
22-30	Novena to the Little Flower

Visits to Carmel may be made throughout the year daily until five P.M.

Carmelite Monastery
Allendale Road
Terre Haute, Indiana

gold, and the choir, refectory and speakroom.

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Community Affairs File

Habit of Order Bestowed On 2 Young Woman Novices.

9/10/11/48

The month of October brings with it the first anniversary of the establishment of the Carmelite monastery on Allendale road, and pressive ceremony yesterday, whn the occasion was marked by impressive ceremony yesterday, when Reverend Paul C. Schulte, archbishop of Indianapolis, presented to Miss Margaret Fiala of Minneapolis, Minn., and Miss Jean Hewitt of Montreal, Canada, and Washington, D. C., the brown religious habit of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Clothed in their white bridal attire, the two young women knelt at the open grate of the nun's choir during mass, offered by the archbishop, following which they received the habit and their religious names. Miss Fiala will henceforth be known as Sister Bernadette of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and Miss Hewitt as Sister Teresa of the Trinity.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fiala of Minneapolis, Minn., Miss Fiala attended the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul for two years, and then enrolled at the School of Nursing of St. Mary's Hospital, Minneapolis, where she was studying at the time of her entrance to Carmel in February.

Miss Hewitt, daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. T. J. Hewitt of Montreal, Canada, was graduated from the Marguerite Bourgeoys College of the University of Montreal, following which she obtained her master's degree in social science from the Social Service School of the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C. In Canada Miss Hewitt was a member of the staff of the Welfare Bureau of the Federation of Catholic Charities, and later served as supervisor of child welfare.

She acted as consultant in the youth department of the National Catholic Welfare conference. At the time of her entrance to the Carmelite monastery last spring Miss Hewitt was a member of the faculty of Trinity College and instructor in the Social Service School of the Catholic University, both located in Washington, D. C.

Out of town guests present for the ceremony were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fiala, Minneapolis, Minn.; Mrs. Marie Donnelly and Mrs. Mary Govenlock, Montreal, Canada; Mrs. J. P. Kennedy and Miss Elizabeth Beatty, Washington, D. C., and Miss Angela Craft, New York City, N. Y.

Rev. August R. Fussenegger, diocesan spiritual director, Indianapolis, will be celebrant of solemn high mass Monday morning.

New color scheme lends beauty and dignity to St. Joseph's church, Fifth and Ohio streets, which was recently redecorated.

Carmelite Monastery

... Opens New Monastery South of City

10/11/47

Open house is being held at the new monastery of the Sisters of the Carmelite order in Allendale The formal dedication will be held Wednesday with Archbishop Paul Schulte presiding.

Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

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Will Hold Three-Day Reception To Lay Citizens.

10/10/47

The Carmelite Order of Sisters will open its new monastery in Allendale Saturday, Sunday and Monday for public inspection. On Wednesday Archbishop Paul C. Schulte of Indianapolis, will say mass at the new monastery, beginning at 9:30 o'clock.

The group of sisters will include nine, seven religious and two postulants. The Carmelite Order is said to be the oldest religious order in the United States. It was founded in 1790 by Maryland and English religious.

The announcements of the opening here contain the following information:

"The Allendale property has undergone extensive alterations over the summer months, in preparation for its adaptation to the uses of monastic observance. The upper floor has been partitioned in such a way as to form small individual cells for the use of the religious. This floor will be open to the public over the week end of the 11th as well as the first floor which has also undergone extensive alterations.

"To the right on the first floor, as one enters the main door, the large living room and music room have been converted respectively into the outer chapel and choir of the monastery. The outer chapel, sanctuary and altar, decorated in tones of cream, brown and gold, are separated by grilles from the inner chapel of the nuns, called the choir because of its use for the recitation of the Divine Office, which forms part of the day of Carmel. Beyond the choir is the refectory and the recreation room. To the left, as one enters the main door, is the large speakroom of the monastery, and directly facing one are the turn and small window where all are welcome who visit Carmel to ask prayers or to give some alms or gifts to the sisters, who are largely dependent (as members of a mendicant order), on the alms of the faithful for support.

"The large rooms of the lower floor will be devoted to the main manual work of the sisters, the making of altar breads which are furnished to churches throughout the state.

"Many will ask of what use is such a convent and what do the nuns do? Perhaps the best answer to that is to follow the sisters through a day within the convent cloister. That day will be filled with a ceaseless round of duties, prayer alternating with work from the rising bell at five, which calls them to prayer, until long into the night as they chant the Divine Office in the choir.

"Save for two hours, one at noon and one at evening, when the sisters sew and work together at recreation, silence is observed. Theirs is the long monastic fast from the fall of the year unto Easter Sunday; theirs, too, the daily work of kitchen and laundry and all the various duties which fill the hours of a home.

"The day of the nuns of Carmel is one of simple austerity and discipline but one which, because of its motivation, has deepest significance, for it is the sanctification of the daily humble tasks of every life and every hour. In finding again the sacred sense of things they find too the way of truth and peace—peace they may share. It is life in its totality lived unto God."

Members of the Carmelite order who are in charge of the new monastery of the order being dedicated tomorrow. Left to right: Sister of the Mother of God, Sister Patricia, Sister Elia, Mother Agnes of Jesus, prioress; Sister Magdelene, sub-prioress; Sister Mary and Sister Joan of the Cross.

Churches (WV)
Carmelite

Veiling Ceremony Marks Fifth Anniversary of Local Carmelites

Oct 17-52-I

In an impressive public ceremony on the morning of Saturday, October 18, at 9:30, Sister Teresa of the Trinity will receive the black veil of the finally professed Carmelite nun at the Carmel on Allendale Road. This occasion marks a milestone in the annals of the monastery for Sister Teresa, who entered there in the early spring of 1948, was the first postulant to be accepted after its foundation and establishment in October, 1947, just five years ago this month. The Most Reverend Paul C. Schulte, archbishop of Indianapolis, will preside at the veiling in the Carmelite chapel, and everyone is invited to attend this unusual ceremony, one of only two public appearances which the Carmelite is permitted during her entire lifetime. Following the reception of the veil, Sister Teresa will be in the speakroom of the Monastery where for three days, October 18, 19 and 20, from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., friends and visitors will have the opportunity of seeing and talking with her.

The Most Reverend Gerald Berry, bishop of Petersborough, Ontario, Canada, will be in attendance to give the sermon. Other out-of-town guests expected for the ceremony are Mrs. G. Govenlock and Miss Marie Donnelly, delegates from the Welfare Board of the Catholic Charities, Montreal, Canada; Miss Angela Craft, staff member of the Social Service School, Fordham University, New York City; Miss Margaret Conway, attorney, Washington, D. C.

Sister Teresa, the former Miss Jean Hewitt of Montreal, Canada, attended Marguerite Bourgeois College in Montreal and the Social Service School of the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., from which she received her Master of Arts degree. Returning to her native Canada she served on the staff of the Montreal Catholic Charities. Coming back to the United States she worked with the famous Christ Child Society and the Youth Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington, D. C., and was a lecturer at the Catholic University and at Trinity College in Washington prior to her entrance to Terre Haute Carmel.

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Nuns seek life of contemplation

The Woods 12-7-83

By Margie Wiggins
Staff Reporter for the Woods

"I had never been to a monastery before, I didn't know what to expect. The tall, modern, brick building was not what I had imagined. When I entered the building, I could hear voices calling me but no one was visible. I noticed a brown curtain covering a small window; the voice was coming from there. I stood in a confused state. For some reason I felt alone and isolated. I kept asking myself — how could people live without contact to the outside world?

The Carmelite nuns live in a monastery established in 1947. The monastery is in Allendale, a southern suburb of Terre Haute. The nuns are in the contemplative ministry, with their lives regulated by prayer.

Our beliefs are the same as the Sisters of Providence, but it is our daily life which is different, said Mother Theresa, prioress. Sister Joseph,novice mistress went on to explain the sisters are in active religious duty while the nuns are separated from the outside world to devote their lives to prayer for the church.

Photo by Martha Brennan

Mother Theresa and Sister Joseph talk behind a wooden grail. In their cloistered environment they are not to be totally seen.

Even though the carmelite nuns live under the cloister separation theory, separation from the outside world to get closer to God, they still realize what is happening in the outside world. They receive telephone calls from people asking for prayers after disastrous events. They receive newsletters from the archbishop and the vatican. The nuns vote by the absentee ballot; they do get involved with the outside world.

Mother Teresa explained the hermitage as a "go apart to pray to God, a call from God and intensity of prayer life is the whole day." She said, "life is a balance between the community and individual life.

Other carmelite nuns said they do not feel trapped inside the monastery. "You really don't know until you come, when you get here you realize," said Sister Joseph, "it is a God-given mechanism to stay here."

They begin their daily work after breakfast. They make altar breads for various providences. This provides the income of the monastery, which tries to be self-supporting. They also make vestments. They print songbooks and other materials, and tend to the household tasks and maintenance of the monastery.

"It's amazing how skills can develop," said Sister Joseph.

The Carmelite nuns spend their afternoons with recreation, more silent prayer, mid-afternoon praise, and scripture study. The nuns spend their evenings much the same way with the final office at 9:30 p.m. and then go to bed around 10:30.

"We try to avoid having a high hurdle to cross by doing what we are supposed to do," said Mother eresa, "we feel comfortable." ıe said she believed all change is in the past, especially since the Vatican II changes took place.

Perhaps a quote on the outside of the monastery wall best describes their life. It was from Matt. 17:4. It said, "Lord, it is good for us to be here."

Photo by Martha Brennan

Mother Theresa shows some of the pamphlets that the nuns had printed.

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